

State of California
Department of Parks and Recreation

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
Northern Service Center
1 Capitol Mall, Suite 410
Sacramento, CA 95814

PROJECT TITLE: Gold Discovery Loop Trail Accessibility Improvements Project
LOCATION: Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park **COUNTY:** El Dorado

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Improve the Gold Discovery Loop Trail in the Day Use Area north of the Gold Discovery Museum at Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park to comply with the "California State Parks Accessibility Guidelines." Work will:

Upgrade approximately 650 linear feet (ft) of existing trail; install approximately 1,450 linear ft of new trail; and relocate an approximately 150 linear ft trail section and up to 170 linear ft of 4 ft high split rail fences to reduce trail grade and obstacles for pedestrians. De-compact and re-contour the surface of the existing 150 ft long trail segment to return the segment to natural conditions. Install an approximately 50 ft long x 2 ft wide rock retaining wall to stabilize trail. Install a new, approximately 225 ft² observation area at the terminus of the existing spur trail for visitors to view the Native American grinding rock. Install up to three new, approximately 75 ft² x 2 ft high pedestrian foot bridges over wet areas along trail. Relocate up to three picnic sites to flat areas; install new, approximately 320 ft² picnic pads and accessories; and install three approximately 50 ft long access trails from the Gold Discovery Loop Trail to each picnic site. Remove low growing vegetation; grade and compact soil surface up to 1 ft deep to construct trail, observation area, and picnic pads; install wood edging and cover surfaces with aggregate rock; and install rebar spikes up to 3 ft deep into soil to secure edging and bridges in place. Trail widths will range from 4 to 8 ft wide.

Install up to twenty sign posts in approximately 1 ft diameter x 2 ft deep holes and mount 4 ft wide x 4 ft tall directional and interpretive signs along the side of the trail. Repair irrigation equipment; replant areas adjacent to trail with grass seed; and excavate approximately 3 ft diameter x 2 ft deep holes to plant twenty new shade trees.

DPR-approved standard project requirements have been incorporated into the Gold Discovery Loop Trail Accessibility Improvements Project. A list of project-specific project requirements can be viewed by contacting the environmental coordinator listed below.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation
NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Acquisition and Development
EXEMPT STATUS: ☒ Categorical Exemption Classes: 1, 3, 4 Sections: 15301, 15303, 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consists of minor alteration of existing public facilities and topographic features involving no expansion of use beyond current levels; construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; and minor public alterations in the condition of land and vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry purposes; included as "trail or road repairs," "modification of existing facilities for handicap access," "construction or installation of park facilities such as signs," and "trail construction or realignment" in the Department of Parks and Recreation list of exempt activities, in accordance with CCR § 15300.4.

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Environmental Coordinator

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Jennifer Harris
Chief, Accessibility Section


DATE